

SERUM & PLASMA SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

Molecular Otolaryngology & Renal Research Laboratories

Collecting Serum Samples:

1. Collect **serum** from whole blood drawn in a **plain red-top** Vacutainer tube and allowed to clot at 37°C for 45 minutes (room temperature is OK if 37°C is not available). Serum separators of tubes with “clot activators” should **not** be used.
2. The clotted blood should be centrifuged at 37°C or at room temperature, and the cell-free serum removed to a clean Eppendorf tube (screw-top). NOTE: it may be necessary to centrifuge the serum a second time if cells are transferred with it the first time.
3. As soon as the cell-free serum is obtained, place the tube at -80°C. Serum must remain frozen until it arrives at the lab, if serum arrives at room temperature a new sample will be required.

Collecting Plasma Samples:

1. **Plasma** should be collected from the whole blood drawn in a **lavender-top (K3-EDTA)** tube, mixed well and centrifuged (1000 rpm for 10 minutes) at room temperature as soon as possible after collection.
2. The plasma should be aliquoted into 500 microliter aliquots, put into 2 milliliter cryovials and frozen as rapidly as possible at -80°C.
3. Once frozen, the plasma is stable if kept at -80°C.

Shipping requirements:

- ▶ Serum and plasma must be shipped with a **minimum of 2 kg (or 5 lbs)** of dry ice.
- ▶ Cryovials should be put in zip lock bags and completely covered in dry ice to keep the sample frozen until it arrives at the lab.
- ▶ Delivery: Monday-Friday.

Ship to:

Attn: Richard Smith
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The University of Iowa
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Iowa City, IA, 52242